



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

**Members Present:** Maggie Czerwinski, John Donovan, Carlos Feliciano, Jessica Hyink, Sidney Kenyon, Patrick Knapp, Aaron Maertins, Jason Meter, Ryan Peterson, Keith Privett, Tom Rickert, Karen Shinnars, Pamela Sielski, Dave Simmons, Kevin Stanciel

**Staff Present:** Erin Aleman, Alison Case, Daniel Comeaux, Caitlin Goodspeed, Jen Maddux, Timothy McMahon, Todd Schmidt

**Others Present:** Allison Buchwach, Michael Fricano, Jeremy Glover, Noah Jones, Michael Klemens, Daniel M., Matt Pasquini, Greg

### 1.0 Call to Order 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Rickert reviewed the Task Force's digital communications protocol. Attendees were asked to remain muted unless speaking or use the chat function for questions and comments.

### 2.0 Approval of Minutes – February 17, 2021

Motioned by Sidney Kenyon, seconded by Kevin Stanciel, the minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented, with no comments.

### 3.0 Agenda Changes & Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

### 4.0 CMAP Board meeting updates

Erin Aleman, Executive Director, gave updates on several CMAP initiatives including the agency's equitable engagement approach, which aims to engage historically underrepresented communities. The Center for Neighborhood Technology will work with CMAP to better engage the public in the agency's programs. Erin encouraged members to reach out with ideas.

Erin also informed task force members that CMAP is working with transportation partners and the Illinois delegation to identify projects to move forward through the national infrastructure bill.

Finally, Erin reported that the CMAP Board is in support of HB 270, which eliminates the local match for bicycle and pedestrian projects on state highways.

## 5.0 Cycling Without Age

Dave Simmons, Executive Director of Ride Illinois, provided an overview of the organization and his involvement with [Cycling Without Age](#), an international nonprofit that offers recreational mobility to seniors and those who are unable to ride a bike independently, in the form of volunteer-piloted trishaw rides.

## 6.0 Public Art and Traffic Safety

Jessica Hyink, Transportation and Mobility Coordinator for the City of Evanston, gave a presentation and led an informal discussion on her experience with implementing public art projects that aim to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety.

Jessica discussed the costs, processes, and context for art projects to improve public safety. Relatively simple interventions, such as lighting, painted crosswalks, murals, and sculptures in public places have been shown to reduce speeds and provide a feeling of safety. In Evanston, such projects are funded through different city programs and funds, which are partially funded through developers. She concluded that city council support and partnerships are key in public art project delivery, and are often best when combined with infrastructure improvements.

## 7.0 Project Updates

Committee members were invited to provide a brief update on their respective organization's bicycle and pedestrian planning and implementation.

- Patrick Knapp announced that the Village of Schaumburg is celebrating Bike Month in June, which includes a bike business challenge a family friendly bike ride, and a scavenger hunt.
- Sidney Kenyon announced that the DuPage Trails Plan will be both an update to the 2013 trails maintenance plan and an exploration into how cities and users interact with area regional trails.
- Aaron Maertins announced that Metra implemented bike cars on the Milwaukee District North line and received limited survey feedback on the pilot. The second-round bike cars will be on the Rock Island line in Summer, with others to follow.
- Ryan Peterson announced that McHenry County is updating its county-wide bike plan and an active transportation policy. The county is also working with UIC students to update its bicycle level of service data.
- Jessica Hyink announced that the City of Evanston has been working on multiple phase I engineering projects – Oakton Street pedestrian improvements, Church Street protected bike lane, Chicago Avenue complete streets.
- Maggie Czerwinski announced that Active Transportation Alliance has been talking to legislators and working to get HB 270 passed, which had over 1,100 witness slips filed.

Maggie also highlighted Suburban Action Week successes, and the videos from the event are available online.

- Karen Shinnars announced that Pace is relaunching their strategic plan “Driving Innovation,” which will look in depth at pedestrian needs, funding, and land use.
- Dave Simmons announced that Ride Illinois is sending out its Ride Guide to get people excited about statewide events. He also mentioned a digital ad campaign that will launch in May. Finally, he brought up the dusk til dawn trail policy in Cook County, which prohibits users with nontraditional work hours.
- Troy Simpson announced that Kane County is working on a bike/ped bridge over the BNSF railroad near Kendall County and finishing Longmeadow Parkway. He also mentioned many Kane County municipalities are implementing trail gaps. The Kane Kendall Council of Mayors is working on updating its STP funding allocation methodology, and one focus will be to encourage bicycle and pedestrian projects.

## **8.0 Other Business**

Jeremy Glover announced MPC’s walkability event on May 11, which will focus on how pedestrian infrastructure affects people’s lives.

Mike Klemens announced that Lake County will be starting consultant selection for an east-west bike path along Lake Cook Road, connecting to the Skokie Valley Trail to the Robert McClory bike path. Lake County is also in phase I engineering for a trail along IL 137 that would connect the Des Plaines River Trail to the Robert McClory bike path. He reported that Lake County supports HB 2950, which changes the definition of a county highway to allow for motor fuel tax to be used for standalone non-motorized projects and right of way acquisition. Finally, Mike stated that the DOT will redistribute money allocated to any trail gaps to those gaps that are part of larger projects.

## **9.0 Public Comment**

There were no comments or questions received prior to or during the meeting.

## **10.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

## **11.0 Adjournment**

On a motion made by Sidney Kenyon, and seconded by Maggie Czerwinski, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

**Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force Members:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Maggie Czerwinski  
\_\_\_\_\_ John Donovan  
\_\_\_\_\_ Carlos Feliciano  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jessica Hyink  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sidney Kenyon  
\_\_\_\_\_ Patrick Knapp  
\_\_\_\_\_ David Longo

\_\_\_\_\_ Aaron Maertins  
\_\_\_\_\_ Allan Mellis  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jason Meter  
\_\_\_\_\_ Randy Neufeld  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jessica Ortega+  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ryan Peterson  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lee Ann Prather

\_\_\_\_\_ Keith Privett  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tom Rickert\*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Karen Shinnors  
\_\_\_\_\_ Pamela Sielski  
\_\_\_\_\_ Dave Simmons  
\_\_\_\_\_ Troy Simpson  
\_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Staniel

\*Chair

+Transportation Committee representative